

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

OLC-2583 -78

August 16, 1978

Office of Legislative Counsel

Honorable William V. Alexander
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Bill:

I enjoyed talking to you last evening. I have arranged for someone to come up to talk to you about SALT and I hope the visit is productive from your standpoint. Good luck on your Geneva visit.

With respect to H.R. 7308, here are the materials which I promised you.

The principal issue is whether or not the Judiciary should be involved in foreign intelligence surveillance questions. We believe that it should under the closely circumscribed conditions which are provided for in the bill. The special courts in the bill, for instance, will not have the power to substitute their judgment for our own with respect to the need for a surveillance tap. We believe that the bill will settle law in this area in a much needed way. It will give FBI agents at the working level and international common carriers confidence that they won't be sued as a consequence of actions taken in the surveillance area.

After you have had a chance to review these materials, I will call back and get your views.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Frederick P. Hitz
Legislative Counsel

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Enclosures

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